DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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May 11, 2006

Mr. Gene K. Fong Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100 Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Ms. Sue Kiser

Mr. Leslie T. Rogers Regional Administrator Federal Transit Administration 201 Mission Street, Suite 1650 San Francisco, CA 94105

Attention: Mr. Ray Sukys

Dear Ms. Kiser and Mr. Sukys:

With this letter and pursuant to the authority delegated to me, I approve the following amendment of the Merced County Association of Governments' 2004/05 - 2006/07 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP):

No. Description

11 **Local Element**

Programs \$291,277 of Federal Transit Administration Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program funds in Federal Fiscal Year 2005/06 for the Yosemite Area Regional Transit System (MPOID: YARTS01). See Enclosure.

I am also recommending that the Federal Highway Administration approve this FTIP Amendment No. 11 for inclusion into California's 2004/05 - 2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Projects included in this FTIP, in fiscal years not within the three-year cycle of the current FSTIP, are not approved as part of this FTIP amendment and are shown for information only.

The updated programming is for project types within Table 2 and 3 - Exempt Projects, of 40 Code of Federal Regulations § 93.126 and § 93.127 that are exempt from the conformity determination requirement. Therefore, this FTIP amendment is consistent with the State Implementation Plan. The financial impacts of this amendment are compatible with anticipated revenues in the FSTIP Financial Plan and do not significantly affect the overall financial analysis. Mr. Gene Fong/Mr. Leslie T. Rogers May 11, 2006 Page 2

In accordance with existing law, public involvement procedures are a part of the project selection process. The Merced County Association of Governments prepared this FTIP amendment under that process permitting citizens, affected local agencies, other public agencies, and other interested parties reasonable opportunity for comment.

Please address any questions on this FSTIP approval request to Cathy Gomes, of my staff, at (916) 654-3271.

Sincerely,

ROSS A. CHITTENDEN

Chief

Division of Transportation Programming

Enclosure

c: Lisa Hanf - EPA Office of Air Planning (w/enclosure)
Jesse B. Brown - Merced County Association of Governments
Marjie Kirn - Merced County Association of Governments